

## 4. PRODUCTION, IMPORT, USE, AND DISPOSAL

### 4.1 PRODUCTION

In 1977, the combined U.S. production and import of 2-hexanone was between 453 metric tons and 4,500 metric tons (EPA 1987b, 1981); no breakdown of these figures was provided. The only U.S. producer of 2-hexanone, the Tennessee Eastman Company division of Eastman Kodak, discontinued its production of 2-hexanone in 1979 and sold its remaining reserves by 1981 (EPA 1981, 1987b; HSDB 1989; Lande et al. 1976). 2-Hexanone was commercially produced by the catalyzed reaction of acetic acid and ethylene under pressure (EPA 1987b).

### 4.2 IMPORT/EXPORT

Currently, 2-hexanone is not produced or used in the United States, and consequently, there is no information on exports or imports (EPA 1987b; HSDB 1989).

### 4.3 USE

2-Hexanone is not currently manufactured, processed, or used for commercial purposes in the United States (EPA 1987b). 2-Hexanone had been used as a solvent for many materials, primarily in the lacquer industry as a solvent for lacquers and varnish removers. It had also been used as a solvent for ink thinners, resins, oils, fats, and waxes. 2-Hexanone had also been used as an intermediate in the synthesis of organic chemicals (ACGIH 1986; HSDB 1989).

### 4.4 DISPOSAL

No data were located regarding the disposal of 2-hexanone or on regulations and guidelines regarding its disposal. The favored method for disposal of ketones is incineration (Lande et al. 1976). No quantitative data were located regarding either the generation or disposal of 2-hexanone which may be produced as a degradation product of coal gasification, wood pulping, or oil shale processing.

